

Dear parents;

January 26, 2011

As most of you may know, this marks our last week of the Intensive French portion of the school year. All schools are writing a French provincial assessment this week, and only a select few schools were chosen to do the oral assessment. (We were not.) We have been working hard on our writing skills and began writing the assessment this morning. There is no need to do anything to prepare your child for this assessment.

On Monday, we will be starting to work on our condensed grade 5 curriculum. The students will be working on Science, Social Studies, Health and English Language Arts, as well as three hours a week in French. The French will be a continuation of the work done in Intensive French, but for only two 90 minute sessions a week. The students will feel like they are advancing much slower with the language during this non-intensive semester.

Our first Science unit is the human body systems unit. The class will be divided in groups and will pick a body system to learn about, in order to present it to the class. I also have pig lungs here to show the class, and a student will be bringing in a pig's heart for us to examine. During this unit, I will be introducing the reproductive system to the class, and the boys and girls will be separated for those two lessons.

Social studies will be focusing on early societies. We will have the art specialist coming in before the March break to help us make medieval castles out of clay. We will be discussing what life was like in a castle, and read a book titled *Castle Diary*.

In Language Arts, we will work on a book club, will read a book together, we will be doing word work and improving writing skills. The goal of grade 5 is to improve on all of the genres of writing they have learned in previous years. I will be sending home weekly spelling words, taken from our word work done in class.

There will be more homework issued in this half of the year, but I will try to assign most of it for the week on Monday. Any project will be given long before the date it's due. You can check our homework website for any updates: <http://5kunze.wikispaces.com/>.

Please contact me if you have any questions at all. Email tends to be the quickest way to contact me, but you can always leave me a phone message with Mrs. Long too.

Thank you,

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